



**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

News Release

News Release No. 02-29

Date:
June 26, 2002

Contact:
Nola Conway

Phone: (509) 527-7020

Corps reminds holiday visitors fireworks not allowed in its parks, recreation facilities; alcohol limited at some

Walla Walla, Wash., -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encourages and invites visitors to come use all the parks and recreation facilities in the Walla Walla District. But, it's important to remember to leave some things behind, according to Corps park and recreation officials.

Fireworks of any kind are prohibited in all the Corps' parks and on its lands across the District. Other restrictions also exist in some locations.

"Alcohol is not allowed at Corps parks in Washington," said Dave Hays, natural resources manager at the Mill Creek Dam near Walla Walla, Wash., which includes Rooks Park and Bennington Lake.

Restrictions aren't intended to limit visitors' ability to celebrate but rather to help all visitors have an incident-free occasion.

"We hope all our visitors will be able to enjoy their weekend and July 4th holiday when they come out to Corps recreation facilities," said Lanell Adams, natural resource manager at Western Area Office. Facilities she's responsible for range from Umatilla, Ore., on the Columbia River to Kahlotus, Wash., on the Snake River.

The Corps and law enforcement officials will be out patrolling facilities all through the holiday, according to Barry Richards, Corps natural resource manager for facilities from Starbuck, Wash., along the Snake River, to facilities east of Lewiston, Idaho, on the Clearwater River.

"If we find people lighting or in possession of fireworks on Corps property, we'll ask to them to remove the items immediately to resolve the situation. We do not intend to dampen the celebration, rather we want to keep people and federal property safe. Issuing a citation is just one method we have to encourage folks to follow the rules," said Paul Pence, Corps park manager at Dworshak Dam near Orofino.

-MORE-

Public Affairs Office, Walla Walla District Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 201 N. Third Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876
Phone (509) 527-7020 FAX (509) 527-7824 CELL (509) 520-1468
Web site: www.nwww.usace.army.mil E-mail: cenwww-pa@usace.army.mil

CORPS PARKS/2-2-2

Another key concern for the Corps is water safety. On that theme, Pence added that flows out of Dworshak increased. That discharge may mean fluctuating levels and currents in the North Fork and main stem of the Clearwater River. He cautioned boaters, fishers, swimmers, and other recreationists to take note that water may be colder and faster at times, and to take appropriate caution.

Ultimately, Corps recreation officials hope visitors will recognize and appreciate that safety is everybody's responsibility.

"Cooperation and courtesy will make summer recreation opportunities a safe and enjoyable time for every visitor to these taxpayer-owned facilities operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," said Dave Brownell, natural resources manager at Lucky Peak Dam on Idaho's Boise River. "We encourage visitors to view public displays and use their legal fireworks carefully in approved locations after they leave Corps-operated facilities."

For more information, visit the Corps' web site on recreation at:

<http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/corpsoutdoors/>

Here are the Corps' recreation facilities operated by the Walla Walla District:

Oregon

Columbia River -- Lake Wallula: Sand Station and McNary Beach near Umatilla

Washington

Mill Creek -- Rook's Park, Mill Creek Recreation Trail and Bennington Lake near Walla Walla

Snake River

* Lake Sacajawea (above Ice Harbor Dam): Hood, Charbonneau, Levey and Fishhook parks

* Lake West (above Lower Monumental Dam): Ayer Boat Basin, Devils Bench, Riparia and Texas Rapids

* Lake Bryan (above Little Goose Dam): Illia Dunes, Illia, and Willow landings

* Lower Granite Lake (above Lower Granite Dam): Chief Timothy Habitat Management Unit, Greenbelt Ramp, Lewiston Levee Parkway, Southway Ramp, Swallows Park, Nisqually John, Offield and Wawawai landings

Idaho

North Fork of the Clearwater River

* Dworshak Dam, Big Eddy, Bruces Eddy, Canyon Creek, Cold Springs Group Camp, Dent Acres, Dent Acres Group Camp, Grandad, Merrys Bay, all Mini-Camps, Picnic Glen, Powerhouse Road, North Fork River Visitor Center, Dworshak Dam and the Viewpoint

Boise River -- Lucky Peak Dam and Lake, near Boise